

## ABSTRACT

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The present invention provides a recording medium comprising a substrate having a glossy coating thereon, wherein the glossy coating comprises a binder and alumina particles that are aggregates of primary particles. The present invention further provides a coating composition comprising the aforesaid alumina particles and a binder, wherein the solids content of the alumina in the coating composition is at least about 10 wt.%.

10 The present invention also provides a method of preparing a coating composition, which method comprises providing a colloidally stable dispersion of the aforesaid alumina particles, wherein the solids content is greater than about 20 wt.%; adding a binder to and, optionally, 15 diluting the dispersion; and, optionally, adjusting the pH with a suitable acid or base.

20 The present invention further provides a method of preparing a recording medium, which method comprises providing a substrate, coating the substrate with the coating composition of the present invention, optionally calendering the coated substrate, and drying the coated substrate.

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